LIBRARY

HEALTH
23 NOV 46
L.R. 62

Rural District Council

of

NORTON

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
LIBRARY

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year

1945

Rural District Council

of

NORTON

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year

1945

Printed by:
THE HERALD PRINTING WORKS,
CONEY STREET, YORK.
[23329]

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b29923128

NORTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the report on the health of the district for the year 1945.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in acres	94,132
Population (estimated) 1945	6,987
1939	7,882
Number of inhabited houses	2,038
Rateable value	£21,071
Product of a penny rate	£85

The population continues to show a slow but steady decrease in numbers. This despite the fact that the birth rate is increased and the death rate is markedly decreased, giving a natural increase of 10.3 per 1,000 of the population.

The illegitimate birth rate is again high at 14 per cent. of the total births.

The district, which is entirely agricultural, and wholly rural, lies along the northern boundary of the East Riding of Yorkshire, and is largely comprised of 144 square miles of the Wolds. There is an abundant supply of good water available, and this has been used to supply all the area.

Vital Statistics.

	M.	F.	Total
Live Births—Total	68	61	129
Legitimate	61	50	111
Illegitimate	7	11	18
Birth Rate per 1,000 population			19.8
Birth Rate, 1944			18.75
England and Wales, 1945			16.1
Illegitimate rate			14%
Still Births			Nil
	M.	F.	Total
Deaths	42	25	67
Death Rate per 1,000 population			9.6
Death Rate, 1944			12.1
England and Wales, 1945			11.4

Natural increase 10.3 per thousand.

There was again no maternal morbidity. Five deaths, all male, occurred from violence, of which one was due to a road accident and one to suicide.

	M.	F.	Total
Deaths of Infants under one year of age	3	1	4
All legitimate.			
Rate per 1,000 live births			32
Rate in 1944			44
England and Wales, 1945			46
Deaths from Cancer			17
Deaths from Measles			0
Deaths from Whooping Cough			0
Deaths from Diarrhœa and Enteritis under 2 years of age			2

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

Medical Officer of Health:
W. THISTLETHWAITE, M.B., Ch.B. (Part-time).

Sanitary Inspector:
O. MILBURN, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., Certified Meat Inspector.

Nursing.

Home nursing and midwifery are provided for part of the district by two District Nursing Associations, at Westow and Ganton, and, in addition, County Midwives are available for maternity nursing in the villages not served by these Associations.

Social Welfare.

The need for outdoor relief has markedly diminished as contributory pensions become more widely available for those who have ceased work by reason of age.

Laboratory Facilities.

These are adequate. The E.P.H. Laboratories at Beverley and Northallerton are available for all forms of pathological and bacteriological investigation, and also for the supply of vaccines and immunisation material.

Samples of water and milk are examined at regular intervals.

Ambulances.

There are none in the area, but facilities provided by the surrounding districts have fulfilled all needs.

Home Nursing.

There is need for an extension of this service to the whole district, but is unlikely to be met until the present grave shortage of nurses is improved.

Treatment Centres.

A well attended infant welfare centre is held every four weeks at Sherburn, attended by the Medical Officer and the District Nurse Midwife.

Hospitals.

There is no general hospital in the area, but the County Council Maternity Home is situated at Westow.

Clinics.

Tuberculosis.—Every four weeks at Norton.

Orthopaedic.—Every four weeks, during school terms, at Scarborough, Malton and Driffield.

Venereal.—Four sessions each week at York and Scarborough.

Housing.

Rapid progress has been made throughout the district in the provision of houses of all types: permanent, semi-permanent, Swedish timber and non-traditional.

Sewage Disposal.

Progress has been made with this task, the survey has been completed for the whole district.

Water Supply.

This is in all respects satisfactory, and the quality of the abundant available supply has been maintained throughout the year at a high level of purity.

THE REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Meat and Food Inspection.

Visits to licensed slaughterhouses, 139. Two persons applied for licences under the Slaughter of Animals Act, and these were granted.

Shops and Store Inspections.

Visits to shops and stores, 4. The undermentioned food was condemned as being unfit for human consumption:—

Meat, 39 tins; Milk, 26 tins; Beans, 5 tins; Fish, 1 tin; Soup, 50 tins; Pickles, 1 bottle; Shell Eggs, 99; Bacon, 22 lbs.; Butter, 9 lbs.

Water Analyses.

Samples taken from private supplies, 7. Three of these were found to be slightly polluted with faecal organisms and steps were taken to clear this pollution, and the matters were satisfactorily cleared up. Samples taken from public supplies, 34, all of which were found to be satisfactory.

Housing Inspection.

Seven houses were inspected in connection with complaints of defects, and 5 informal notices were served, all of which were complied with.

Housing and Inspections under Circular 2871.

No certificates were issued.

Inspection of Nuisances, Sewers and Drains, etc.

Number of complaints received, 35. Twenty notices were served and 18 complied with.

Milk and Dairies Order.

Number of inspections carried out, 12. It was not found necessary to serve any notices for contravention.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Unburnable refuse was collected from each parish on 4 occasions during the year.

Rats and Mice.

Four complaints of rat infestation were received, 9 visits were paid to such premises.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Disease.	Total Cases.	Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet fever	7	3	Nil
Diphtheria	Nil	Nil	Nil
Measles	177	Nil	Nil
Whooping cough ...	45	Nil	Nil

Three hundred and fifty-five children were immunised during the year against diphtheria.

TUBERCULOSIS—NEW CASES AND MORTALITY.

New Cases.				Deaths.			
Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
3	3	—	3 ...	—	1	—	1

New cases 9. Deaths 2.

May I express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Housing Committees for their support during the year, and to the Officers and Staff of the Council for all their loyal and valuable help.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

W. THISTLETHWAITE.